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Department of State
AR Pol 15-1 Camb

TOP SECRET

TELEGRAM
ACTION COPY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

(3) Z 010335Z MAY 70
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 627
BT
T O P S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 688

REVIEWED BY *Ambley* DATE *10/9/80*
May 1, 1970

RDSI or XDS ☐ DATE *12:09 a.m.*
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

REF: STATE 065609 AND STATE 065901

1. FIRST REFTEL REACHED ME TEN MINUTES BEFORE THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AND THE SECOND REFTEL ARRIVED HALF HOUR AFTER SPEECH. THEREFORE UNABLE DISCUSS WITH LON NOL PRIOR PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.
2. LON NOL RECEIVED ME AT 0900. ALSO PRESENT WERE SIRIK MATAK, FONMIN AND GENERAL U SAY.
3. I EXPRESSED REGRET AT INABILITY ALERT GOC TO CONTENTS PRESIDENT'S SPEECH PRIOR ITS DELIVERY. I THEN TRANSLATED SUMMARY CONTAINED REFTELS, STRESSING PARTICULARLY THE PRESIDENT'S POINTS REGARDING CHOICES OPEN TO HIM, CONTINUED DESIRE FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION AND EFFORTS AVOID CAMBODIA BEING FORCED INTO ACTIVE BELLIGERENCY IN INDOCHINA WAR.
4. CAMBODIANS WERE ALL EXTREMELY INTERESTED AND GRATEFUL FOR INFORMATION AND FOR ACTIONS BEING TAKEN BY USG. LON NOL WAS RECEIVING THE PRESS INCLUDING NBC TELEVISION AND NEW YORK TIMES IMMEDIATELY AFTER OUR MEETING AND WE DISCUSSED HIS PROPOSED ANSWERS TO OBVIOUS QUESTIONS. HE WOULD STICK LARGELY TO PAST SCENARIO, EXPLAINING IGNORANCE OF EVENTS OCCURRING IN TERRITORY PRESENTLY OCCUPIED BY NVNA/VC BUT ALSO GENERALLY APPROVING ACTIONS LEADING TO REMOVAL ENEMY FORCES FROM CAMBODIAN SOIL.
5. DESPITE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS REGARDING PROVISION OF LIMITED AID TO CAMBODIA TO DEFEND ITS NEUTRALITY, IT WAS CLEAR THAT GENERAL LON NOL STILL HAS SOMEWHAT EXAGGERATED EXPECTATIONS. HE WENT ON AT CONSIDERABLE LENGTH REGARDING NECESSITY CAMBODIA BE ABLE DEFEND ITSELF BEFORE FULL THOUGHT CAN BE GIVEN TO OTHER MATTERS. HE IS ALSO CLEARLY DEVELOPING IDEAS REGARDING ISRAELI-TYPE SETTLEMENTS ALONG BORDER BY FORMER SOLDIERS WHO WILL BE TRAINED TO DEFEND FRONTIERS.
6. AT CONCLUSION MEETING, I STRESSED THAT ULTIMATE AID PRESIDENT WAS PEACE, PREFERABLY BY NEGOTIATION, URGED THAT HE MAKE CLEAR TO PRESS THAT THIS IS ALSO CAMBODIA'S PREFERENCE. GP-1.

RIVES

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